

In the response to the Final Office Action of April 23, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

OK to enter
The
Please replace the first full paragraph on page 8 of the specification with the following new paragraph:

B1
- - The pellets of the invention can be administered in an appropriate pharmaceutical formulation, such as a solid pharmaceutical formulation, suitable for oral administration, for example, in the form of hard gelatin capsules or they may be formulated as tablets. The pharmaceutical formulation may contain pellets with different profiles of modified release, that is to say, with systems of modified release that have a differently weighted ratio (insoluble polymer: soluble polymer), for example, they may contain a mixture of (i) pellets with a fast release profile and (ii) pellets with a slow release profile, in a ratio (i):(ii), by weight, lying between 5:95 and 95:5, preferably 10:90 and 90:10. The pellets with a slow release profile comprise a ratio of insoluble polymer: soluble polymer in the system of modified release greater than in the case for pellets with a fast release profile. In the sense used in this description, the term "pellets with a slow release profile" refers to pellets that release in aqueous medium, pH 6.8, after 30 minutes [that is to say, 150 minutes if the 2 hours in acid medium (HCl) are counted according to Monograph 724 of the USP for "Drug Release", in particular, for Delayed-Release (Enteric coated Articles)] a maximum of 50% of the active ingredient. If the amount of active ingredient release in such conditions is greater than 50% then said pellets are considered, for the purposes of this specification, as "pellets with a fast release profile". Example 8 shows some illustrative data of pellets with slow release profiles and fast release profiles according to the present invention. - -

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims:

21. (Twice Amended) A composition of modified release comprising a mixture of the pellets of claim 25 having the same release profile.
22. (Twice Amended) A composition of modified release comprising a mixture of the pellets of claim 25 having a different release profile.